

OUR STORIES

Community of Giving from Jerry Hale

An inspiring story from our parish to fill your day with joy.



Generosity Stories

We are excited to share that our Stewardship Team will continue to work with the program hosted by the Lutheran synod called Stewardship for All Seasons. As a part of this program, our overall goal for our congregation is to build a culture of generosity. We have so many wonderful stories of generosity right here in our own community, and we will be sharing those with you. Be on the lookout for "Our Stories" in your email, in our Weekly Announcements, on our website, and on our Facebook page. We are grateful for those who are sharing their stories.

Ferne and I became associated with Trinity some 17 years ago. We had retired to the lake about three years earlier but prioritized boat rides and water skiing over Sunday worship—even in the off-season. Then I suddenly lost a dear friend to brain cancer. That tragedy underscored how important it was to connect to a faith community.

During our working and child-raising years in Delaware, we attended an Episcopal church for 25 years. There were not many of those nearby from which to choose. As lake lovers, we were inclined toward the option most connected to SML. Trinity's offering of an 8:00 a.m. Ecumenical service—with communion every week—was appealing. And we liked getting home in time to enjoy being on the lake before it became afternoon busy.

At Trinity, we were pleasantly surprised that one's faith upbringing simply didn't seem to matter. Pastors and people were welcoming, friendly, and caring, no matter your background. That continues to this day and makes us proud to be members.

We have been inspired by the passion at Trinity to give back to the lake community in so many ways. Trinity's founding principles call for a connection to our outreach ministries—and each of our denominations decides how to share a portion of our offerings. This follows Jesus' call to care for others and the less fortunate.

At Trinity, I find giving my time and talents and treasure to be a joy, not an obligation. I am continually impressed by the professionalism with which our financial team volunteers manage and report on our financial status. My hope for Trinity is that God will continue to bless us with the talented clergy and staff and the passionate volunteers to continue to enable the outreach ministries that make Trinity a beacon of God's love in the SML community.

—Jerry Hale

